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GLOSSARY

Acceptability – Adequate to satisfy a need, requirement, or standard. One of the USACE requirements for a project.

Adaptive Management – An interdisciplinary approach acknowledging our insufficient information base for decision-making; that uncertainty and change in managed resources are inevitable; and that new uncertainties will emerge. An iterative approach that includes monitoring and involves scientists, engineers and others who provide information and recommendations that are incorporated into management actions; results are then followed with further research, recommendations and management actions, and so on.

Aggradational Process of Plant Growth – Plant root material building elevation, usually in fresh marsh.

Air Quality Determination – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality ensures that projects do not adversely affect air quality through this determination as a requirement of the Clean Air Act.

Alternative Plan – A set of one or more management measures within a subprovince functioning together to address one or more objectives.

Amplitude – The maximum absolute value of a periodically varying quantity.

Anoxia – Absence of oxygen.

Anthropogenic – Caused by human activity.

Aquaculture – The science and business of farming marine or freshwater food fish or shellfish, such as oysters and crawfish, under controlled conditions.

Astronomical Tides – Daily tides controlled by the moon, as opposed to wind-generated tides.

Average Annual Habitat Unit (AAHU) – represent a numerical combination of habitat quality and quantity (acres) existing at any given point in time. The habitat units resulting from the future without- and future with-project scenarios are annualized, averaged over the project life, to determine Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHUs).

Barbary Soils – Soils in swamps (with logs and stumps) that are level, very poorly drained, with a thin mucky surface layer and clayey underlying material.

Benefits – Valuation of positive performance measures.

Benthic – Living on or in sea, lake, or stream bottoms.

Biomass – The total mass of living matter (plant and animal) within a given unit of environmental area.

Bottomland Hardwood Forest – Low-lying forested wetlands found along streams and rivers.

Brackish Marsh (BRM) – Intertidal plant community typically found in the area of the estuary where salinity ranges between 4-15 ppt.

Chenier Plain – Western part of coastal Louisiana with little influence from Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers characterized by chenier ridges.

Clean Water Act Section 404 (b) (1) – There are several sections of this Act which pertain to regulating impacts to wetlands. The discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States is subject to permitting specified under Title IV (Permits and Licenses) of this Act and specifically under Section 404 (Discharges of Dredge or Fill Material) of the Act.

Coastal Zone Consistency Determination – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reviews plans for activities in the coastal zone to ensure they are consistent with Federally approved State Coastal Management Programs under Section 307(c)(3)(B) of the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Coast wide Plan – Combination of alternative plans assembled to address an objective or set of objectives across the entire Louisiana Coast.

Coast wide Framework – Combination of plan components assembled to address an objective or set of objectives across the entire Louisiana Coast.

Collocated Team – A collection of scientists and professionals from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, and Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries that are located at the USACE-MVN office and work together on the LCA Plan.

Compaction of Holocene Deposits – Deltaic mud that packs down under its own weight.

Completeness – The ability of a plan to address all of the objectives. One of the USACE four requirements for a project.

Comprehensive Plan – Same as coast wide Plan.

Conditional Authorization – authorization for implementation of a project subject to approval of the project feasibility-level decision document by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works

Congressional Authorization – authorization for investigation to prepare necessary feasibility-level report to be recommended for authorization of potential future project construction by Congress

Connectivity – Property of ecosystems that allows for exchange of resources and organisms throughout the broader ecosystem.

Continental Shelf – The edge of the continent under gulf waters; the shallow Gulf of Mexico fringing the coast.

Control Structure – A gate, lock, or weir that controls the flow of water.

Crevasse – A breach or gap in the levee or embankment of a river (natural or manmade), through which floodwaters flow.

Cumulative Impacts – The combined effect of all direct and indirect impacts to a resource over time.

Datum – A point, line, or surface used as a reference, as in surveying, mapping, or geology.

Deciduous Forest – Forest composed mostly of trees that lose their leaves in the winter.

Decomposition – Breakdown or decay of organic materials.

Degradation Phase – The phase of the deltaic cycle when sediments are no longer delivered to a delta, and it experiences erosion, dieback, or breakup of marshes.

Deltaic Cycle – The repeating pattern of delta development, progression, and abandonment. As sediments are deposited at the mouth of the distributary channels, the delta progresses seaward. The main channel then switches to a new course with a shorter reach to the depositional basin. Abandoned delta lobes decrease in elevation due to continued subsidence and sediment compaction, resulting in retreat of the shoreline. Abandoned lobes may be partially or wholly covered by new lobes during later deltaic cycles.

Deltaic Deposits – Mud and sand deposited at the mouth of a river.

Deltaic Plain – The land formed and reworked as the Mississippi River switched channels in the eastern part of the Louisiana coastal area.

Demersal – Dwelling at or near the bottom of a body of water (e.g., a *demersal fish*).

Detritus – The remains of plant material that has been destroyed or broken up.

Dewatering – The process of dredged sediments compacting while losing water after being deposited.

Discharge – The volume of fluid passing a point per unit of time, commonly expressed in cubic feet per second, millions of gallons per day, or gallons per minute.

Dissolved Oxygen – Oxygen dissolved in water, available for respiration by aquatic organisms. One of the most important indicators of the condition of a water body.

Direct Impacts – Those effects that result from the initial construction of a measure (e.g., marsh destroyed during the dredging of a canal). Contrast with “Indirect Impacts.”

Diurnal – Relating to or occurring in a 24-hour period; daily.

Diversion – A turning aside or alteration of the natural course or flow of water. In coastal restoration this usually consists of such actions as channeling water through a canal, pipe, or conduit to introduce water and water-borne resources into a receiving area.

Dredged material embankments (Spoil Banks, Side-cast Banks, Excavated Material Banks)
– Dredged material removed from canals and piled in a linear mound along the edge of canals.

Dynamic – Characterized by continuous change and activity.

Ecological – Refers to the relationship between living things and their environment.

Economic – Of or relating to the production, development, and management of material wealth, as of a country, household, or business enterprise.

Ecosystem – An organic community of plants and animals viewed within its physical environment (habitat); the ecosystem results from the interaction between soil, climate, vegetation and animal life.

Ecosystem Restoration – activities that seek to return a organic community of plants and animals and their habitat to a previously existing or improved natural condition or function.

Effectiveness – Having an intended or expected effect. One of the USACE four requirements for a project.

Efficiency – The quality of exhibiting a high ratio of output to input. One of the USACE four requirements for a project.

Egress – A path or opening for going out; an exit.

Electrical Conductivity – The ability of a medium to conduct electricity. Salt water has a higher electrical conductivity than fresh water, and this property allows the measurement of salinity through a simple meter.

Embankment – A linear mound of earth or stone existing or built to hold back water or to support a roadway.

Encroachment – Entering gradually into an area not previously occupied, such as a plant species distribution changing in response to environmental factors such as salinity.

Endangered Species – Animals and plants that are threatened with extinction.

Endpoints – see Objectives

Engineering News Record (ENR) – A magazine that provides news needed by anyone in or from the construction industry.

Enhance – To augment or increase/heighten the existing state of an area.

Entrenchment – Being firmly embedded.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – A document that describes the positive and negative environmental effects of a proposed action and the possible alternatives to that action. The EIS is used by the Federal government and addresses social issues as well as environmental ones.

Estuary – A semi-enclosed body of water with freshwater input and a connection to the sea where fresh water and salt water mix.

Estuarine – Related to an estuary.

Evaporation – The process by which any substance is converted from a liquid state into, and carried off in, vapor; as, the evaporation of water.

Exotic Species – Animal and plant species not native to the area; usually undesirable (e.g., hyacinth, nutria, tallow tree, giant salvinia).

Faulting – A fracture in the continuity of a rock formation caused by a shifting or dislodging of the earth's crust, in which adjacent surfaces are displaced relative to one another and parallel to the plane of fracture.

Feasibility Report – A description of a proposed action, previously outlined in a general fashion in a Reconnaissance Report, that will satisfy the Federal interest and address the problems and needs identified for an area. It must include an assessment of impacts to the environment (either in an Environmental Assessment, or the more robust Environmental Impact Statement), an analysis of alternative methods of completion, and the selection of a Recommended Plan through the use of a cost-effectiveness analysis.

Feature – A constructible increment of an alternative plan.

Federal Principals Group (FPG) –A collaboration among Federal agencies at the Washington level to facilitate the flow of information, to provide guidance and recommendations to the USACE and LDNR throughout the study process, and to facilitate resolution of any interagency issues that may be identified in the conduct of the study.

Final Array – The final grouping of the most effective coast wide plans from which a final recommendation can be made.

Foreshore Dikes – An embankment of earth and rock built to prevent floods or erosion that is built in the area of a shore that lies between the average high tide mark and the average low tide mark.

Framework Development Team (FDT) – A group of professionals from various Federal and state agencies, academia and the public formed to provide a forum for individual members to discuss LCA Comprehensive Study activities and technical issues and to provide individual comments to the Senior Management Committee.

Fresh Marsh (FAM) – Intertidal herbaceous plant community typically found in that area of the estuary with salinity ranging from 0-3 ppt.

Furbearer – An animal whose skin is covered with fur (mammal), especially fur that is commercially valuable, such as muskrat, nutria, and mink.

Geomorphic – Related to the geological surface configuration.

Geosynclinal Down-warping – The downward bend or subsidence of the earth's crust, which allows of the gradual accumulation of sediment

Geotropically – Downward growth in response to gravity, as in plant roots.

Glycophytes – A plant that cannot live in high salinity environments, most plants.

Goals – Statements on what to accomplish and/or what is needed to address a problem without specific detail.

Gradient – A slope; a series of progressively increasing or decreasing differences in a system or organism.

Habitat – The place where an organism lives; part of physical environment in which a plant or animal lives.

Habitat Loss – The disappearance of places where target groups of organisms live. In coastal restoration, usually refers to the conversion of marsh or swamp to open water.

Habitat Units (HUs) – represent a numerical combination of quality (HIS) and quantity (acres) existing at any given point in time. The HUs resulting from the future without- and

future with-project scenarios are annualized, averaged over the project life, to determine Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHUs). The “benefit” of a project can be quantified by comparing AAHUs between the future without- and future with-project scenarios. The difference in AAHUs between the two scenarios represents the net benefit attributable to the project in terms of habitat quantity and quality.

Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Wastes (HTRW) – Wastes that contain toxic constituents, or that may cause hazardous chemical reactions, including explosive or flammable materials, or radioactive wastes, which, improperly managed may present a hazard to human health or the environment.

Headland – A point of land projecting into the sea or other expanse of water, still connected with the mainland.

Herbaceous – A plant with no persistent woody stem above ground.

Hydrodynamic – The continuous change or movement of water

Hydrology – The pattern of water movement on the earth's surface, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere.

Hypoxia – The condition of low dissolved oxygen concentrations.

Indemnification – Insurance against or compensation for loss or damage.

Indirect Impacts – Those effects that are not as a direct result of project construction, but occur as secondary impacts due to changes in the environment brought about by the construction. Contrast with “Direct Impacts.”

Infrastructure – The basic facilities, services, and installations needed for the functioning of a community or society, such as transportation and communications systems, water and power lines, and public institutions including schools, post offices, and prisons.

Ingress – An entrance or the act of entering.

Inorganic – Not derived from living organisms; mineral; matter other than plant or animal.

Interdistributary Deposits – Sand and mud deposited between the river channels or between bayous.

Intermediate Marsh (INM) – Intertidal herbaceous plant community typically found in that area of the estuary with salinity ranging from 2-5 ppt.

Intertidal – Alternately flooded and exposed by tides.

Invertebrates – Animals without backbones, including shrimp, crabs, oysters, and worms.

Land-water Ratio – The relative proportion of wetlands and uplands to water in an area.

Larvae – The stage in some animal's life cycles between egg and adult (most invertebrates).

Leeward – Sheltered from the wind; away from the wind.

Levee – A linear mound of earth or stone built to prevent a river from overflowing; a long, broad, low ridge built by a stream on its flood plain along one or both banks of its channel in time of flood.

Loamy – Soil composed of a mixture of sand, clay, silt, and organic matter.

Locally Preferred Plan (LPP) – Alternative plan preferred by local sponsor if other than the Recommended Plan.

Maintain – To keep in existing state.

Marine Forcing – tidal action or exchange.

Methodology – A set of practices, procedures, and rules.

Mineral Substrate – Soil composed predominately of mineral rather than organic materials; less than 20 percent organic material.

Mudflats – Flat, unvegetated wetlands subject to periodic flooding and minor wave action.

Myatt Series – Gray terrace soil, with whitish, pebbly subsoil.

National Ecosystem Restoration (NER) – USACE standard for cost-effectiveness based on ecosystem, not economic, benefits.

Near-shore Currents – Movement of water parallel to the shoreline. Usually generated by waves breaking on the shore at an angle other than perpendicular.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – Ensures that Federal agencies consider the environmental impacts of their actions and decisions. NEPA requires all Federal agencies to consider the values of environmental preservation for all significant actions and prescribes procedural measures to ensure that those values are fully respected.

Net Gain – The amount of cumulative land gain less land loss, when gain is greater than loss.

Net Loss – The amount of cumulative land gain less land loss, when gain is less than loss.

No Action Alternative – The alternative in the LCA Plan which describes the ecosystem of the coastal area if no restoration efforts/projects were done.

Nursery – A place for larval or juvenile animals to live, eat, and grow.

Objectives – More specific statements than “Goals,” describing how to achieve the desired targets.

Oceanic-dumping – The discharge of wastes or pollutants into offshore waters.

Organic – Composed of or derived from living things.

Oscillations – Fluctuations back and forth, or up and down.

Oxidation of Organic Matter – The decomposition (rotting, breaking down) of plant material through exposure to oxygen.

Oxygen-depleted – Situation of low oxygen concentrations where living organisms are stressed.

Petrochemical – Any compound derived from petroleum or natural gas.

Planning Scale – Planning term that reflects the degree to which environmental processes would be restored or reestablished, and the resulting ecosystem and landscape changes that would be expected over the next 50 years. This uppermost scale is referred to as “*Increase*.” No net loss of ecosystem function is “*Maintain*.” Reducing the projected rate of loss of function is “*Reduce*.” The lowest possible scale was no further action above and beyond existing projects and programs.

Point-Bar Deposit – The shallow depositional area on the inside bank of a river bend.

Post-larval – Stage in an animal’s lifecycle after metamorphosis from the larval stage, but not yet full grown.

Potable Water – Water that is fit to drink.

ppt – parts per thousand. The salinity of ocean water is approximately 35 ppt.

Primary Consolidation/Secondary Compression – Two processes acting on a substrate that has a load applied to it to cause the sediment to increase in density, and decrease in volume.

Prime Farmland - Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, oilseed, and other agricultural crops with minimum inputs of fuel, fertilizer, pesticides, and labor, and without intolerable soil erosion. One of the categories of concern in the EIS.

Principles – Framing statements that can be used to evaluate alternatives while considering issues that affect them. Used along with targets and assessments of ecosystem needs to provide guidance in formulation of alternative plans.

Productivity – Growth of plants and animals.

Progradation – The phase during the deltaic cycle where land is being actively accreted through deposition of river sediments near the mouth.

Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) – and Environmental Impact Statement that supports a broad authorization for action, contingent on more specific detailing of impacts from specific measures.

Province – A major division of the coastal area of Louisiana. (e.g., Deltaic Plain and Chenier Plain).

Pulsing – Letting a diversion flow periodically at a high rate for a short time, rather than continuously.

Quantitative – Able to assign a specific number; susceptible to measurement.

Radiocarbon Age Determination – The use of the ratio of carbon isotopes to determine age.

Rebuild – To some extent build back a structure/landform that had once existed.

Reconnaissance Report – A document prepared as part of a major authorization that examines a problem or need and determines if sufficient methods and Federal interest exists to address the problem/need. If so, then a “Feasibility Report” is prepared, which details the solution and its impacts further.

Reduce – To diminish the rate or speed of a process.

Regional Working Group (RWG) – An inter-agency team formed to support the Washington-level Federal Principal’s Group and to facilitate regional level collaboration and coordination on the LCA study.

Rehabilitate – To focus on historical or pre-existing ecosystems as models or references while emphasizing the reparation of ecosystem processes, productivity and service.

Relative Sea Level Change – The sum of the sinking of the land (subsidence) and eustatic sea level change; the change in average water level with respect to the surface.

Restore – Return a wetland to an approximation of its condition or function prior to disturbance by modifying conditions responsible for the loss or change; re-establish the function and structure of that ecosystem.

Sangamonian Interglacial Period – the last interglacial period before the Holocene period (the current geological period).

Saline Marsh (SAM) – Intertidal herbaceous plant community typically found in that area of the estuary with salinity ranging from 12-32 ppt.

Salinity – The concentration of dissolved salts in a body of water, commonly expressed as parts per thousand.

Salt Marshes – See “Saline Marsh.”

Scoping – Soliciting and receiving public input to determine issues, resources, impacts, and alternatives to be addressed in the draft EIS.

Sea level – Long-term average position of the sea surface.

Sediment Plume – Caused by sediment rich rainwater runoff entering the ocean. The runoff creates a visible pattern of brown water that is rich in nutrients and suspended sediments that forms a kind of cloud in the water spreading out from the coastline. Commonly forms at river and stream mouths, near sloughs, and along coasts where a large amount of rain runoff flows directly into the ocean.

Sheet Flow – Flow of water, sediment, and nutrients across a flooded wetland surface, as opposed to through channels.

Shoaling – The shallowing of an open-water area through deposition of sediments.

Slikensides – The smooth or partially polished surface of rock caused by one rock mass sliding over another in a fault plane.

Social – Relating to human society and its modes of organization.

Socioeconomic – Involving both social and economic factors.

Stabilize – To fix the level or fluctuation of; to make stable.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) – The part of the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism that deals with Native American sites and other archaeological/historic sites.

Stillstand – A period of time when sea level did not change.

Storm Overwash – The process by which sand is transposed landward over the dunes during a storm event by waves.

Storm Surge – An abnormal and sudden rise of the sea along a shore as a result of the winds of a storm.

Stough soils – Yellowish brown coarse-loamy soil.

Strategy – Ecosystem restoration concept from the Coast 2050 Plan.

Stream Gaging Data – Records of water levels in streams and rivers.

Submergence – Going under water.

Subprovince – The divisions of the two Provinces (see “Province”) into smaller groupings: 1) east of the Mississippi River; 2) west of the Mississippi River to Bayou Lafourche; 3) Bayou Lafourche to Freshwater Bayou; 4) Freshwater Bayou to Sabine River.

Subsidence – The gradual downward settling or sinking of the Earth’s surface with little or no horizontal motion.

Sustain – To support and provide with nourishment to keep in existence; maintain.

Tarbert Flow – Stream gage data recorded at Tarbert’s Landing on the Mississippi River.

Target – A desired ecosystem state that meets and objective or set of objectives.

Terrestrial Habitat – The land area or environment where an organism lives; as distinct from water or air habitats..

Third Delta – A proposed project that would divert up to 120,000 cubic feet of water per second from the Mississippi River near Donaldsonville, Louisiana down a conveyance channel to the marshes in southern Barataria and Terrebonne Basins.

Toxicity – The measure of how poisonous something is.

Transpiration – The process by which water passes through living plants into the atmosphere.

Trenasse – A small manmade trench through a swamp or marsh allowing travel by small boats.

Turbidity – The level of suspended sediments in water; opposite of clarity or clearness.

Unique Farmland – Land other than Prime Farmland (see “Prime Farmland”) that is used for the production of specific high-value food and fiber crops, such as citrus, tree nuts, olives, cranberries, fruits, and vegetables.

Upconing – The tendency of underground salt water to move closer to the surface in the vicinity of a well as it fills the areas where freshwater is drawn out.

Upland (UPL) – A general term for non-wetland elevated land above low areas along streams or between hills.

Water Resource Units (WRU) – Stage-damage data developed as part of the Flood Damage Estimation System (FDES) in 1980 for the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) project were used to estimate the flood damages that are expected to occur in Subprovinces 1, 2, and 3. The data collected for the FDES were delineated into geographic areas with homogenous physical and hydraulic characteristics. These geographic areas were numerically coded and designated as Water Resource Units (WRUs). Within each WRU, land-use elements (structures, cropland, roads, bridges, railroads, etc.) were categorized by location, value, and corresponding depth-damage relationship. The structural damage categories included: residential, commercial, industrial, public, and farm buildings.

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) – A bill passed by Congress that provides authorization and/or appropriation for projects related to the conservation and development of water and related resources.

Weir – A dam placed across a canal or river to raise, divert, regulate or measure the flow of water.

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ACRONYMS

AAHU – Average Annual Habitat Unit
ACHP – Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACM – Articulated Concrete Mat Revetment
AEAM – Adaptive Environmental Assessment and Management
ARS – Local Rate of Subsidence
ASA (CW) – Assistant Secretary of the Army (for Civil Works)
BAT – Best Available Technology Economically Achievable
BCT – Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology
BMP – Best Management Practices
BPD – Barrels Per Day
BRM – Brackish Marsh
BTNEP – Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
BTU – British Thermal Units
BU – Benefits Units
CDP – Census Designated Places
CE/IC – Cost Effectiveness and Incremental Cost
CE/ICA – Cost Effectiveness and Incremental Cost Analysis
CELSS – Coastal Ecological Landscape Spatial Simulation
CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR – Code of Federal Regulations
CFS – Cubic Foot Per Second
COM – Compaction Fraction
CP – Conceptual Plan
CRT – Coastal Restoration Team
CSVR – Contents-to-Structure Value Ratio
CWA – Clean Water Act
CWPPRA – Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection Restoration Act
CY – Calendar Year
CYR – Cubic Yards Per Year
D – Water Depth
dbl – decibels
DD – Decision Documents
DEQ – Department of Environmental Quality
DM – Decision Makers
DO – Dissolved Oxygen
E&D – Engineering and Design
EIS – Environmental Impact Statement
EMAP – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program
ENR – Engineering News Record
EP – Engineering Pamphlet
FAM – Fresh Marsh
FDES – Flood Damage Estimation System
FDT – Framework Development Team

FEMA – Department of Homeland Defense – Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA – Federal Highway Administration
FPG – Federal Principals Group
FCSA – Feasibility Cost Share Agreement
FTL – Functional Team Leader
FWA – Future With The Alternative
FWO – Future Without Project
FY – Fiscal Year
GIWW – Gulf Intracoastal Waterway
GIS – Geographic Information System
H&H – Hydrology and Hydraulics
HSI – Habitat Suitability Index
HSIQL – Habitat Suitability Index That Reflects Quality of Habitat
HTRW – Hazardous, Toxic, or Radioactive Waste
HQU – Habitat Quality Units
HQUSACE – Headquarters, United States Army Corps of Engineers
HUD – Housing and Urban Development
IHNC – Inner Harbor Navigation Canal
INM – Intermediate Marsh
INT – Interspersion
IPT – Interdisciplinary Planning Team
ITR – Independent Technical Review
IWR – Institute for Water Resources
LABR – Lower Atchafalaya Basin Reevaluation
LAR – See LABR
LCA – Louisiana Coastal Area
LDNR – Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
LDOTD – Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
LDWF – Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
LERRD – Land, Easements, Rights of Way, Relocation, and Disposal
LNG – Liquefied Natural Gas
LPDES – Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System
LPMS – Lock Performance Management System
LPP – Locally Preferred Plan
LSU – Louisiana State University
MCACES – Microcomputer Aided Cost Estimating System
MCFS – Marsh Creation Feasibility Study
MPO – Metropolitan Planning Organization
MR&T – Mississippi River and Tributaries
MRC – Mississippi River Commission
MRGO – Mississippi River Gulf Outlet
MS4s – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems
MVD – Mississippi Valley Division
MVN – Mississippi Valley New Orleans District
NE – Northeast
NED – National Economic Development

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act
NER – National Ecosystem Restoration
NG – Natural Gas
NGVD – National Geodetic Vertical Datum
NHPA – National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS – Department of Commerce – National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRC – National Research Council
NRCS – Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP – National Register of Historic Places
NTRC – National Technical Review Committee
NW – North West
NWR – National Wildlife Refuge
OMRR&R – Operating, Maintaining, Repairing, Replacing, and Rehabilitating
OSI – Overall Suitability Index
O&M – Operations and Maintenance
OPEC – Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
P&G – Principles & Guidelines
PBMO – Plan that Best Meets Objectives
PCA – Project Cost Agreement
PDT – Project Delivery Team
PED – Preconstruction, Engineering, and Design
PEIS – Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
PIERS – Port Import Export Reporting Service
PIR – Project Implementation Report
PMT – Project Management Team
PPM – Parts Per Million
Q – Discharge
RET – Retention Fraction
RR – Railroad
RSLR – Relative Sea Level Rise
RV – Recreational Vehicle
RWG – Regional Work Group
S&A – Supervision and Administration
SAM – Saline Marsh
SELA – Southeast Louisiana
SHPO – State Historic Preservation Officer
SL – Sediment Load
SLU – Southern Louisiana University
SPR – Strategic Petroleum Reserve
SS – Scrub Shrub
SUB – Local Subsidence Amount
SW – Southwest
SWF – Swamp
SWPPP – Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Limit
TSP – Tentatively Selected Plan
TVA – Tennessee Valley Authority
ULL – University of Louisiana at Lafayette
UNO – University of New Orleans
UPL – Upland
USACE – United States Army Corps of Engineers
USACE-MVN – United States Army Corps of Engineers – Mississippi Valley New Orleans
District
USACE-OVEST – United States Army Corps of Engineers – Office of the Chief of Engineers
Value Engineering Study Team
USEPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFDA – United States Food and Drug Administration
USFWS – Department of Interior – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS – Department of Interior – United States Geological Survey
VE/ITR – Value Engineering/ Independent Technical Review
VT – Vertical Team
WAT – Water
WCSC – Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center
WEFA – Wharton Economic Forecasting Associates
WLO – Wax Lake Outlet
WRDA – Water Resource Development Act
WRU -- Water Resource Units
WVA – Wetlands Value Assessment
WW – Waterway

CONVERSIONS

METRIC SYSTEM ¹					
LENGTH					
<i>Unit</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Number of Meters</i>	<i>Approximate U.S. Equivalent</i>		
kilometer	km	1,000	0.62 mile		
hectometer	hm	100	328.08 feet		
dekameter	dam	10	32.81 feet		
meter	m	1	39.37 inches		
decimeter	dm	0.1	3.94 inches		
centimeter	cm	0.01	0.39 inch		
millimeter	mm	0.001	0.039 inch		
micrometer	μm	0.000001	0.000039 inch		
AREA					
<i>Unit</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Number of Square Meters</i>	<i>Approximate U.S. Equivalent</i>		
square kilometer	sq km <i>or</i> km ²	1,000,000	0.3861 square miles		
hectare	ha	10,000	2.47 acres		
are	a	100	119.60 square yards		
square centimeter	sq cm <i>or</i> cm ²	0.0001	0.155 square inch		
VOLUME					
<i>Unit</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Number of Cubic Meters</i>	<i>Approximate U.S. Equivalent</i>		
cubic meter	m ³	1	1.307 cubic yards		
cubic decimeter	dm ³	0.001	61.023 cubic inches		
cubic centimeter	cu cm <i>or</i> cm ³ <i>also</i> cc	0.000001	0.061 cubic inch		
CAPACITY					
<i>Unit</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Number of Liters</i>	<i>Approximate U.S. Equivalent</i>		
			<i>cubic</i>	<i>dry</i>	<i>liquid</i>
kiloliter	kl	1,000	1.31 cubic yards		
hectoliter	hl	100	3.53 cubic feet	2.84 bushels	
dekaliter	dal	10	0.35 cubic foot	1.14 pecks	2.64 gallons
liter	l	1	61.02 cubic inches	0.908 quart	1.057 quarts
cubic decimeter	dm ³	1	61.02 cubic inches	0.908 quart	1.057 quarts
deciliter	dl	0.10	6.1 cubic inches	0.18 pint	0.21 pint
centiliter	cl	0.01	0.61 cubic inch		0.338 fluid ounce
milliliter	ml	0.001	0.061 cubic inch		0.27 fluid dram
microliter	μl	0.000001	0.000061 cubic inch		0.00027 fluid dram

MASS AND WEIGHT			
<i>Unit</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Number of Grams</i>	<i>Approximate U.S. Equivalent</i>
metric ton	t	1,000,000	1.102 short tons
kilogram	kg	1,000	2.2046 pounds
hectogram	hg	100	3.527 ounces
dekagram	dag	10	0.353 ounce
gram	g	1	0.035 ounce
decigram	dg	0.10	1.543 grains
centigram	cg	0.01	0.154 grain
milligram	mg	0.001	0.015 grain
microgram	µg	0.000001	0.000015 grain